

C. Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 1-13 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A Tire tread (1, 101) for a tire, laterally defined laterally by two sidewalls lateral faces (4, 104 and 5, 105) connecting joining radially inner and outer faces (2, 102 and 3, 103) together, said tread (1, 101) ~~having a base of being~~ comprised of an electrically insulating material, characterized in that ~~it contains~~ said tread ~~has on its circumference~~ at least one conductive layer (10, 110) appreciably joining the said ~~sidewalls~~ arranged to substantially connect said lateral faces (4, 104 and 5, 105) together, said layer (10, 110) having a resistivity ~~less~~ lower than that of said insulating material, which is radially provided radially on both sides (11, 111 and 12, 112) of said layer (10, 110) in said tread (1, 101).

2. (currently amended) The Tread (1) according to Claim 1, characterized in that the said at least one conductive layer (10) ~~or each conductive layer~~ appreciably joins ~~the said sidewalls~~ substantially connects said lateral faces (4 and 5) together, so such that it is interrupted opposite at least one of ~~them~~ said lateral faces.

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3. (currently amended) The Tread (1) according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the said at least one conductive layer ~~or each conductive layer~~ (10) appreciably joins

~~the said sidewalls~~ substantially connects said lateral faces (4 and 5), so such that it is interrupted opposite said radially inner and outer faces (2 and 3).

4. (currently amended) The Tread (1, 101) according to ~~one of the foregoing~~ claims Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the said at least one conductive layer ~~or each conductive layer~~ (10, 110) is ~~roughly~~ substantially parallel to the said outer face (3, 103).

5. (currently amended) The Tread (1, 101) according to ~~one of the foregoing~~ claims Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that it ~~contains~~ comprises a single conductive layer (10, 110) provided at a distance away from ~~both~~ one or the other of said inner and outer faces (2, 102 and 3, 103) which is greater than or equal to one-quarter the thickness of said tread (1, 101).

6. (currently amended) The Tread (1, 101) according to Claim 5, characterized in that said distance is equal to half the thickness of said tread (1, 101).

7. (currently amended) The Tread (1, 101) according to ~~one of the foregoing~~ claims Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the resistivity of said conductive layer (10, 110) is less than or equal to $10^8 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$, the resistivity of the said insulating material being greater than or equal to $10^8 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$.

8. (currently amended) The Tread (1, 101) according to ~~one of the foregoing~~ claims Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that it ~~contains~~ comprises at least one conductive strip

or film (114, 114', 114a, 114b), which is provided to connect the said inner and outer faces (102, 103) together electrically.

9. (currently amended) The Tread (101) according to Claim 8, characterized in that it ~~contains~~ comprises two conductive strips or films (114) which are respectively provided ~~on~~ at the locations of ~~the said sidewalls~~ said lateral faces (104 and 105).

10. (currently amended) The Tread (101) according to Claim 9, characterized in that said strips or films (114) are extended respectively ~~over~~ on said outer face (103) by two electrically conductive circumferential peripheral bands (115).

11. (currently amended) The Tread (101) according to Claim 8, characterized in that it ~~contains~~ comprises, between said ~~sidewalls~~ lateral faces (104 and 105), at least one electrically conductive film (114') which connects said inner and outer faces (102 and 103) together.

12. (currently amended) The Tread (101) according to Claim 8, characterized in that it ~~contains~~ comprises, ~~on one side firstly~~, at least one inner ~~ribbon conductor~~ conductive strip (114a) connecting said at least one conductive layer (110) ~~or each~~ conductive layer to said radially inner face (102) and, ~~on the other~~, at least one ~~outer rubber~~ conductor external conductive strip (114b) connecting said at least one conductive layer ~~or~~ each conductive layer (110) to said radially outer face (103).

13. (currently amended) A Tire, characterized in that it contains a tread (1, 101) according to ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ Claim 1 or 2.